

[3 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

found to be viable. On the 30th June, 2001, the BIFR ordered that a show-cause notice for winding up the company should be issued. A notice has since been issued fixing 17.9.2001 as the next date on which this matter will be heard.

Horticulture development in Assam

*188. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated for Assam for development of horticulture; and

(b) the present status of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (b) Government of India implemented several Centrally Sponsored Schemes, during 8th Plan and till October, 2000 in 9th Plan, for the development of horticulture in Assam. These schemes were for development of fruits, vegetables, floriculture, mushroom, medicinal and aromatic plants, cashewnut, spices and also use of plastics in horticulture. The schemes were subsumed in October, 2000 in the scheme of Macro Management of Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States, efforts through Work Plans, which provides flexibility to the States to take up need based programmes.

To provide focused attention to horticulture in North-Eastern States, the Government of India launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim" which is being implemented from the current financial year. This scheme covers the State of Assam also. The Technology Mission aims to address all the issues of horticulture, including technological development, quality planting material, expansion of area, transfer of technology, mechanization, data collection through remote sensing, post harvest management, marketing, export and processing in an integrated manner. All the on-going horticulture development schemes have now become part of the Technology Mission.